Installation of statue of Laxmibai

†*192. SHRI RK. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ancestral house of Jhansi Ki Rani, Laxmibai in Tulsi Ghat at her birth place, Banaras is in a dilapidated conditions; if so, the difficulty in developing it and installing a statue of Laxmibai; and

(b) the reasons for not declaring it as protected area?

THE MINISTER OFTOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) The site does not have any archaeological and architectural remains and is not presently under the protection of Archaeological Survey of India. The State Government on being approached has informed that it is verifying the authenticity of the site which is claimed to be the birthplace of Rani Laxmibai at Tulsi Ghat at Varanasi. Development of the site will depend on the outcome of the investigation by the State Government.

Security System at Salarjung Museum, Hyderabad

*193. DR. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Salarjung Museum, Hyderabad lacks an integrated modern security system;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the close circuit television covers only a part of the Museum; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government propose to ensure better security of the Museum?

THE MINISTER OFTOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) Prior to 1973, the security of the Salarjung Museum was looked after by its own security personnel consisting of about 50 security guards. Subsequently, the security was strengthened by entrusting the job of external security to the Andhra Pradesh State Police. On 12th November, 1996 the internal security of the Museum was completely handed over to the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF). Presently 103 CISF personnel are deployed for the security of the Museum.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.